AN ATYPICAL NEW SPECIES OF CORTICARINA FROM THE CLARION ISLANDS, MEXICO (COLEOPTERA: LATHRIDIIDAE: CORTICARIINI)

Fred G. Andrews

Insect Biosystematics, Plant Pest Diagnostics Center,¹
California Department of Food and Agriculture,
Sacramento, California 95832-1448

Abstract. — Corticarina keiferi NEW SPECIES is described from the Clarion Islands (Mexico). Key Words. — Insecta, Coleoptera, Lathridiidae, Mexico

Clarion Island, Mexico, lies some 450 miles to the southwest of the tip of Baja California and is part of the Revillagigedos Island group. The Island volcanically originated along the Clarion Ridge from 1 to 2.5 million years in ago (Duncan & Clauge 1985). No other Lathridiidae is known from this island.

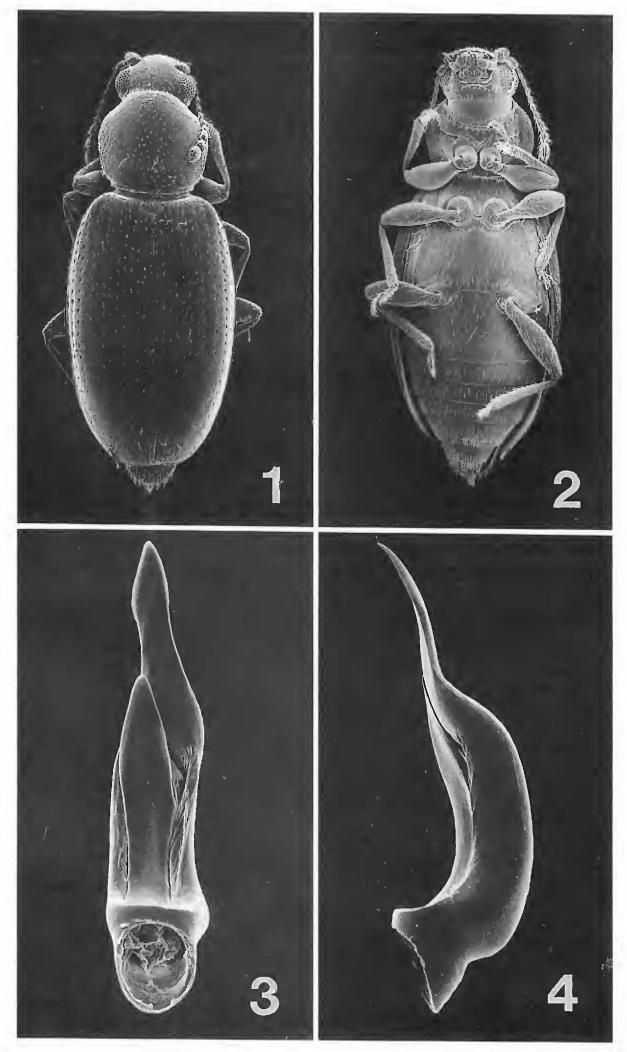
CORTICARINA KEIFERI NEW SPECIES

Type Material.—Holotype. Male. MEXICO. Clarion Islands. 30 Apr 1925, H. H. Keifer, collector. Deposited in the California Academy of Sciences. Paratypes (40), same data. Deposited in the California Academy of Sciences and the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

Description.—Length 1.3–1.6 mm. Width 0.60–0.70 mm. Pronotal length 0.30–0.42 mm. Pronotal width 0.37–0.46 mm (n=39). Unicolorous light red-brown. Antennae 0.30–0.40 mm long, segments 3–7 cylindrical, elongate, length $2\times$ width, segment 8 expanded apically, slightly longer than wide, segments 9–11 forming club, segments 9, 11 longer than wide, segment 10 as wide as long. Pronotum $1.0-1.20\times$ as wide as long, lateral margins rounded, widest at anterior one-third, dorsal surface evenly, flatly rounded, no depressed areas, lateral margins smooth, without serrations. Pronotal surface smooth, shiny, punctures small, shallow, not visible at 60 magnifications, setae short, decumbent, not visible at 60 magnifications. Elytra elongate oval, laterally smooth, rounded, $1.4-1.6\times$ longer than wide. Elytron with 8 regular rows of small indistinct striae, interstriae with small indistinct rows of setae, setae shorter than punctures. Fully winged. Eyes fully developed, 103 facets in single eye examined. Prosterna with distinct transverse fovea anterior and lateral to procoxa, first tarsal segment produced beyond second segment, subequal in length to third segment. Metasterna, abdominal segments regularly clothed with short distinct decumbent setae. Male: protibia toothed on inner surface, tooth four-tenths distance from apex. Male genitalia as in Figs. 3, 4.

Diagnosis.—Corticarina keiferi shares with other Corticarina species a similar overall shape, form of the male genitalia, form of the male protibia, shape of the mentum and generalized relationship between the tarsal segments. It differs, however, from them in sharing, with Melanophthalma (Cortilena), the smooth shiny dorsal surface with small inconspicuous punctures and setae of the pronotum and elytra. Additionally, the shape of the pronotum when viewed dorsally bears a strong resemblance to M. (Cortilena). This species, can be differentiated from all other Corticarina species by the characters mentioned above in conjunction with the unique shape of the male genitalia.

¹ 3294 Meadowview Road.



Figures 1-4. Corticarina keiferi. Figure 1. Dorsal habitus. Figure 2. Ventral habitus. Figure 3. Dorsal view male aedeagus. Figure 4. Lateral view male aedeagus.

LITERATURE CITED

Duncan, R. A. & D. A. Clauge. 1985. Pacific plate motion recorded by linear volcanic chains. Pp. 89–121. *In* The ocean basins and margins. Plenum Press, New York.